The (Out-of-)State University

January 28, 2015

By Doug Lederman

It's well documented that state appropriations for public colleges and universities have flattened or fallen since the early 2000s, especially when viewed against significant increases in enrollments at the institutions over that time. It is similarly understood that enrollments of out-of-state students have burgeoned over that time period. But are the two trends related?

A new study published in the journal Research in Higher Education (abstract available here) asserts that they are. The research, by professors at the University of Arizona and the University of Missouri at Columbia, examines the relationship between funding for higher education in U.S. states and the levels of nonresident enrollment at public institutions between 2002-3 and 2012-13.

It finds that a 10 percent decline in a state's financial support was associated with a 2.7 percent increase in out-of-state enrollment at its public institutions. The relationship was even greater at public research universities (4.6 percent) and at research-extensive institutions (5 percent).

As is often the case with studies such as this one, the researchers -- Ozan Jaquette, assistant professor of educational policy studies and practice at Arizona, and Bradley R. Curs, associate professor of educational leadership and policy analysis at Missouri -- can't document a direct causal relationship between the cuts in state appropriations and the increase in out-of-state students.

But they were able to control for state- and institution-level factors that tend to affect the enrollment of no-resident students, such as more aggressive recruitment of such students by universities in states with declining college-age populations. Even after controlling for such factors, the scholars "found a strong and significant negative relationship between state appropriations and nonresident enrollment," Jaquette said in an e-mail.

Further, he said, "consistent with the idea that public universities increase nonresident enrollment in response to decline in state appropriations, when we changed the dependent variable to "resident" freshman enrollment, we did not find a statistically significant relationship between state appropriations and resident freshman enrollment." In other words, enrollments of in-state students didn't similarly rise in response to cuts in state funding.

While some state legislators balk when out-of-state enrollments rise too high or too fast, because of the perception that the incoming students are taking slots away from state residents, public college leaders in many states describe their lawmakers as engaging in a wink-and-nod arrangement in which they acknowledge that it's a comparatively painless way for the institutions to make up for the loss of state funds. (Public college officials also sometimes explicitly link state funding to increases in in-state enrollment, as the University of California's Janet Napolitano has done in debates over state funding there.)
Increases in the number of out-of-state students can also benefit institutions (and states) because many students end up working (and paying taxes) in the states where they receive their bachelor's degrees. "Therefore, nonresident enrollment growth may positively affect state economic development," the researchers write.

Still, the trend is not without its costs, the researchers say.

Another recent paper by Jaquette, Curs and Julie Posselt, an assistant professor of education at the University of Michigan, found that increases in the number of out-of-state students drive down the proportion of low-income and underrepresented minority students at public research universities, since most of the students imported from other states were full-paying (and hence from wealthier families).

More philosophically, they argue, the trade-off of cuts in state appropriations for increased out-of-state enrollment may contribute to the drift toward privatization that many policy makers and others see unfolding in public higher education. "Public universities may treat state budget cuts as the breaking of an implicit contract between the university and the state," they write, "thereby entitling the university to transition from an exclusive relationship with the state to an open relationship that crosses state boundaries."

**the maneater**

**ResLife introduces first gender-neutral housing for fall 2015**

Sixteen beds in suite-style housing at College Avenue and all bathrooms at the new Gateway Hall will be gender-neutral.

**Residential Life is introducing the first ever gender-neutral housing option at MU.**

Director of Residential Life Frankie Minor said four gender-neutral suites will be available on the first floor of College Avenue Hall, totaling 16 beds in both single and double rooms for students and one single room for a community advisor. The changes will be adopted starting in the fall 2015 semester.

Gateway Hall, the new residence hall under construction on Virginia Avenue, will also have gender-neutral bathrooms.

Minor has been advocating for gender-neutral options since 2012.

While the gender-neutral rooms are available to all students, the new housing option may be more beneficial for students whose options were previously limited.

LGBTQ Resource Center Coordinator Struby Struble said the new housing option could be a safe space for all students.
“I think because there’s a lot of negativity around gender-nonconforming and transgender people in our culture at large, having a space that’s openly transparent about their support of all students is really important,” Struble said.

She said the eight gender-neutral rooms are a great place to start gauging the demand for this type of housing option.

Ben Micek, hall coordinator for College Avenue, said a community advisor for the new gender-neutral floor has not yet been chosen, but ResLife is exploring several options.

“What we're hoping to find someone who is already pretty involved with gender issues on campus or in their personal life,” he said. “We have a number of staff members who fit into that category, so we’ll be looking at them in addition to the new selection pool.”

Micek said the advisor will go through additional training to help meet specific needs residents on the floor may have.

Residential Life Area Coordinator Maya Hernandez said she hopes the new gender-neutral floor will be inclusive to other students who identify as cisgender.

“It doesn’t mean that if you choose to live in this community you are (gender-nonconforming),” she said. “Hopefully you’re supportive of gender-neutral (students), but you could be in transition yourself or maybe you want to be an ally.”

Minor said transgender or gender non-conforming students still have the option to live in other residence halls across campus. He said ResLife and the LGBTQ Resource Center currently work closely together to help students, who choose to contact them, to help decide which residential hall best suits their needs.

All bathrooms in Gateway Hall, which is scheduled to open for the fall 2015 semester, will be gender-neutral.

Minor said that on the first floor, there will be three public restrooms which will be designated as male, female, and unisex. He said there will be two community bathrooms on floors two through five, which will be labeled as “gender-flexible” community bathrooms. Each will have three sinks and five separate rooms within the restroom. These will have fully locking doors that indicate whether it is available or occupied. Two of the five will have a toilet and shower, and the other three will have a toilet, shower and sink.

Minor said the gender-neutral bathrooms will help provide students complete privacy that is different in other community bathrooms which just have stall doors or shower curtains.

Hernandez said she is excited about the department’s move to provide more gender-neutral options because it helps improve inclusivity at MU.
“If we’re going to be true to having a diverse campus, we need to include this population in the work that we do,” she said.

Berkley Hudson brings life’s work to race relations committee

Faculty Council committee was established at Jan. 22 meeting to address race-related issues at MU.

The walls of Berkley Hudson’s office are cluttered with photographs. Some of them capture joyous occasions — weddings, birthdays, anniversaries — but most of them don’t. Most of them are candid: prosceniums into the simple life of a simple family in rural Mississippi.

There’s a picture of Hudson rabbit hunting with his family. There are three of them standing in a field. Hudson, between two of his relatives, is holding the carcass of a recently slain rabbit. Everybody’s smiling; nothing seems wrong.

But that photograph and others on Hudson’s wall belie the true character of the world in which he came of age. Mississippi in the 1950s and ‘60s was, as he describes it, the center of a “civil rights hurricane.” Hudson was exposed to a bevy of racial injustices, the likes of which are often cited as the lowest citizens of this country have ever sunk. There were personal injustices; shouts and murmurs of racial epithets spat at black men and women on street corners and in grocery stores. There was institutionalized racism; signage outside restaurants and schools denying service to certain Americans under the pretense of “separate but equal.”

The photographs on the walls of Hudson’s office are hung about a tall, stately bookcase. The hundreds of books occupying its shelves are the physical manifestation of the time Hudson has spent trying to make sense of his unique and cruel childhood. The days he’s spent wrestling with remembrances of uninhibited racism born of ignorance and hatred are on those shelves. The hours he’s spent trying to shake the spectre of a tempestuous, forlorn youth are on those shelves. The minutes he’s spent negotiating life after Jim Crow are on those shelves.

Hudson, a journalism professor, brings his life’s work and experience as a journalist and scholar to his position as the chairman of the new Faculty Council committee on race relations, which was announced during the council’s Jan. 22 meeting.

“(Race relations) is something I’ve been thinking, researching and writing about my whole life,” Hudson said. “I also think I’m a good listener, and that’s what’s important right now. For me to
listen to the differences that are present, and also to identify where there are commonalities in this issue.”

**One of the primary goals of the new committee will be to identify the nature of the problems related to race and ethnicity at MU.**

Racial issues have been brought to the fore in part because of what has taken place on the national stage in recent months, but Hudson said racial issues have been a problem on this campus for a long time, despite what detractors may claim.

“I’m aware that not everyone believes there’s a problem,” he said. “But I’m very clear about the fact that there’s a problem. I don’t need Michael Brown’s death or Eric Garner’s death to make me aware of that.”

The issue was highlighted on campus by student demonstrations and Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin’s listening session in December.

Students at the listening session criticized faculty and administrators for not responding to the issues sooner. Faculty Council Chairman Craig Roberts said the event revealed the severity of the problem.

“It was surprising to a lot of us,” he said. “We’ve always known there have been racial incidents. We just didn’t know it was a way of life.”

Hudson said the committee is still in its beginning stages, and that he will work closely with Faculty Council member John Lory and journalism professor Earnest Perry, who moderated the December listening session, to work out the details. Perry was unavailable for comment.

While the committee is a part of Faculty Council, Hudson said, its membership may not be limited to those currently on Faculty Council.

Roberts recognized during the council’s Jan. 22 meeting that it does not have an African-American member. He said it is sometimes difficult for white faculty members to be “in tune with the mistreatment of people of color … (it’s) a problem under the surface that we may not detect.”

Faculty Council member Karen Piper said council members plan to meet with student representatives from the Black Culture Center to get a sense of what specific problems should be addressed.

Hudson said he is still in the process of finding faculty members who are willing and able to join his committee. Because this issue is so closely tied to student life, he said, there is a place for student leaders at the table.

“MU has been and is a mainstream, traditionally, culturally white institution,” Hudson said. “We’re talking about big changes that still need to occur.”
Angela Speck, chairwoman of Faculty Council’s Diversity Enhancement Committee, said she believes a part of the problem is that many people are in denial about the extent of race relations issues.

“When you start to explain to people that they don’t know what it’s like because they’re not black, they get all defensive about it,” she said. “That’s part of what we need to overcome.”

A discrepancy in faculty satisfaction between white MU faculty and faculty of color was quantified in 2014, prompting additional study by Faculty Council. As of fall 2012, 57 percent of faculty of color said they were very satisfied or satisfied with MU as a place to work, compared to 70 percent of white faculty. Results were from the Collaborative on Academic Careers in Higher Education survey, which measures faculty satisfaction, show that faculty of color at MU are significantly less satisfied than their white counterparts.

“For a decade, I’ve thought there’s a climate problem on campus,” Piper said. “I’m glad Ferguson kind of spotlighted that for us. At this point it’s in the initial stages, but I’m optimistic.”

Hudson said he also plans to draft a resolution that will make an empathetic statement about the need to continue discussing the issues of race relations on campus and commend Loftin for the work he has already done regarding the issue.

MU Spokeswoman Mary Jo Banken said Loftin has agreed to hold additional open forums in February, March and April to provide updates on actions being taken and collect feedback from the community.

Hudson said that while there are many parts to the issue of race relations, the goal should be working to create a culture of inclusivity on campus. Many students come to MU having only lived in homogeneous environments and coming to MU means having to learn to mix with the rest of the community, Hudson said.

“There’s a lot to learn,” he said. “You can create a culture where that falls away. You can create a culture where you have people who are attracted to work here, play here, be here together who have a shared common value of respect, discovery, excellence and responsibility. I’m an idealist in that way, that I can envision that kind of place.”

the maneater

Full-time employment during college insufficient to cover tuition costs
With the 2014 average debt of MU graduates coming to nearly $25,000, students work both full and part time in attempts to afford college.

While costs of attending MU continue to rise, the state’s minimum wage remains stagnant, putting additional strain on students attempting to pay for college by working.

Even if a Missouri resident student worked full time for an entire year making the minimum wage, which is $7.50 in Missouri, they would fall $8,000 short. A non-resident would be about $23,000 short.

In 2013, the average debt of MU graduates was $24,875, according to the Projection on Student Debt. Fifty-five percent of 2013 graduates were in debt, and MU tuition is expected to increase, according to a Jan. 21 Maneater article.

Some students work full time in order to cope with climbing costs. In Missouri, 20 to 24.9 percent of college undergraduates worked full time, year-round in 2011, according the Census Bureau.

MU graduate student Benjamin Schrimpf is a full-time graduate research assistant for the university. Through this full-time position, Schrimpf’s entire tuition fee is waived; he only has to pay MU’s course enrollment fees.

“The tuition waiver was a huge stress relief, and is the only reason I continued my education,” Schrimpf said.

Before working as a full-time graduate research assistant, Schrimpf said, he would not have been able to afford the various expenses of college. Schrimpf began his work as a research assistant during his sophomore year of undergraduate studies, and continues to work there four years later.

His parents helped him pay for his sophomore year of college, but the other years he paid out of pocket, relying on work and scholarships to get him by financially.

“It’s a complete and total mess,” Schrimpf said. “Even just talking to them and trying to get the loans worked out is almost impossible. The cashier’s office and financial aid departments at MU are just completely disorganized, in my experiences.”

Schrimpf said he anticipates to be about $6,000 to $7,000 in debt after graduate school.

Even with working full time, data shows that it’s nearly impossible for an MU student to completely pay for their college expenses without having money already saved, or receiving a tuition waiver.

In 2014, the average cost for a Missouri resident enrolled in 15 credit hours at MU was $23,597. Non-residents paid $38,624, according to MU’s website. Yet, students who work 40 hours per week for an entire year making minimum wage would come up short.
In order to make enough money to pay for the 2014 average cost of attending MU, a Missouri resident would either have to work 40 hours per week making $11.35 an hour, or 61 hours a week at minimum wage. To achieve the same goal, a non-resident student would have to either work 40 hours a week making $20 an hour, or 100 hours per week at minimum wage.

MU senior Ashley Szatala is currently taking 18 credit hours and works as an editor for Vox Magazine, which makes working full time impossible. She does work part time as a student supervisor at Baja Grill. It’s her third year working there.

“Even with my supervisor pay at Baja, I still do not have enough to cover my rent, books, any emergencies that develop and even to go out,” Szatala said.

Szatala also wants to make sure she has a life outside of work.

While Szatala said her parents help her pay for some expenses, she still doesn’t always have enough money. Szatala said she picks up extra shifts in order to cope with this issue.

“This is my sixth day in a row working,” Szatala said.

MU senior Cece Tsevas is a part-time student supervisor at the Starbucks in Memorial Union. Despite working roughly 24 hours a week, Tsevas said she still doesn’t have enough money.

“I’m always broke,” Tsevas said. “I live paycheck to paycheck.”

Tsevas’ parents are helping her with some of the various college expenses. Without their help, Tsevas said, she couldn’t afford to go to MU.

Tsevas described working that many hours per week while attending school as awful.

“I wake up, I go to work at 6:30 a.m., and then get off at 12 p.m. and go straight to class,” Tsevas said. “Or I wake up, go to class and then go straight to work. I feel like I have no free time, ever.”

Though many employed students still struggle to get by financially, the university has several resources for students needing to make money.

According to records, MU spent an additional $57.4 million on student employment in 2014.

MU provides students with Hire Mizzou Tigers, a website listing various job openings around the area. Students are able to sign in with their university login and fill out a profile, which will filter the career results.

The service also offers workshops to help students with the job search and interview processes, including an Interview Basics workshop 5 p.m. Wednesday in Lafferre Hall W1004.
Career counselors are also available through the Career Center to guide students in their job searching processes. Other services help students with financial issues.

In 2014, MU federal loans totaled $195.8 million and alternative loans totaled $18.3 million, according to MU’s records.

Freshman Rebecca Burkhart said she is paying for her entire college tuition, along with the costs of joining different organizations, by herself. Burkhart’s parents had to pay for school on their own. Burkhart said they’re trying to teach her the way they were taught: Not everything will be handed to her in life.

Burkhart currently works part time at Sophia’s, a restaurant in south Columbia. She also works at several different places over holiday and summer breaks.

“It’s not easy, I can tell you that,” Burkhart said. “When the payments come in the mail, they kind of give you a mini-heart attack knowing you have to pay that much.”

Burkhart said while financial aid helps, it’s far from covering everything. She had a scholarship last semester and one this semester, but Burkhart said the amount wasn’t enough to make a drastic difference.

Burkhart expects to have accumulated about $40,000 to 50,000 of student loans by the time she graduates.

“I feel like for most students, they kind of just have it easy. Their parents pay for everything … They don’t really have to worry about how much things cost,” Burkhart said.

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**the maneater**

**ASUM continues lobbying legislators for student curator vote**

Since 2002, 27 bills have tried and failed to place a voting student member on the Board of Curators.

Student leaders and Missouri lawmakers are in talks to introduce a new bill that would place a voting student member in university leadership this legislative session.

Missouri Students Association President Payton Head said in an email he and a student advocate met with Rep. Kip Kendrick, D-Columbia, on Jan. 22 to discuss student-focused legislative goals. One of those goals is to give students a vote on the UM System Board of Curators, something Head campaigned for during the 2014 MSA presidential election.
The Board of Curators, which governs the four UM System campuses, has included a non-voting student representative since 1984. The student representative was admitted to closed-door board meetings for the first time in 1999.

**The Associated Students of the University of Missouri, a system-wide, student-led political education and legislative advocacy organization, has been advocating for the student vote for over a decade.** Since 2002, the 27 bills to give students a vote on the board have fallen short. One bill passed both chambers of the Missouri General Assembly in 2008, only to be vetoed by then-Gov. Matt Blunt.

ASUM President Trey Sprick said he is optimistic about successfully passing a student vote bill this year, and that the specifics of an upcoming bill will be announced later this semester.

Kendrick declined to take a stance on the voting issue at this time, but said he would be interested in further discussing the idea with students.

*Pushing for a new bill*

Sprick said he believes a voting student curator would better represent students’ preferences in major university decisions.

“Right now, our board is made up of individuals who are a bit farther removed from day-to-day life at the universities,” he said. “The goal of the legislation that we’d like to see passed is to make sure that the Board of Curators is grounding their decisions in understanding of students’ experiences in the university system.”

ASUM has advocated for a voting student curator for years. Bills trying to get a student vote have been sponsored nearly every year since 2002, when then-Rep. Chuck Graham, D-Columbia, sponsored a bill that would give the student member voting rights. The bill passed the House but failed in the Senate.

“The main reason ASUM advocates for this is that as an organization, ASUM feels as though those who provide over half of the revenue to this university and university system should have some say in the business decisions made by the system,” Sprick said.

Sprick said the eight ASUM interns, six of whom are MU students this year, play the most important role in advocating for the student vote.

Sprick said the interns are taking a more active role in Jefferson City this year than they have in years past, with an emphasis on testifying in committee hearings as a way to convey messages to a broader group of elected officials. He said they work full-time in Jefferson City every Tuesday and Thursday, meet with legislators, testify at hearings and provide information to elected officials.
“They register as lobbyists in the state of Missouri, and they’re the ones that truly push the platform,” he said. “We’ve had sponsors for this bill and this bill (was) introduced every year since we started pushing for it, and that really comes down to those interns.”

The Missouri General Assembly is in session from early January to late May each year. Sprick said the ASUM interns start each legislative session focusing on setting up meetings with legislators to talk about their platform and to see who is willing to sponsor or co-sponsor the bills that fall in line with that platform.

“Legislation is only really introduced through the first three months of session or so,” Sprick said. “Basically, by the end of March we know what is feasible to push for in the final debates. After that, it’s all about maintaining relationships with legislators and answering any questions they have.”

Current student representative

Tracy Mulderig, a doctoral student at UM-St. Louis, has represented the 77,283 UM System students since March 2014. She said her current responsibilities include attending all board meetings, including open and closed sessions, during which the board discusses and votes on initiatives such as tuition fee increases and new degree programs. She also attends other formal events on behalf of the UM System.

Mulderig said it would be a conflict of interest if she advocated for or against a student vote on the board.

“I want my fellow students to know that board members listen to me and take my feedback to heart, which makes a huge difference,” she said. “My priority is to do the best that I can at this job in order to show that students are mature and responsible enough for voting privileges when ASUM finally does succeed with this initiative.”

Mulderig is a member of the Finance Committee and the Academic, Student and External Affairs Committee, according to the curators’ website

Mulderig said she keeps in contact with student government leaders on the four UM System campuses and uses social media to communicate with students.

“One of the interesting things about this position is that you have to recognize that there are shared challenges, but there are also unique problems and issues for each campus,” she said. “I work more closely with board members and system leadership, but I also remain in contact with the chancellors and student leaders.”

Mulderig said her position is important because she communicates between board members and university students.

“I am one of the very few students that the board members interact with on an ongoing basis,” Mulderig said. “The curators truly care about students and student issues. My position is
critically important because over time, they trust the student representative as their source of information on student issues.”

The selection of the student representative rotates across the four UM System campuses. After Mulderig’s term ends Jan. 1, 2016, an MU student will take her place.

UM System spokesman John Fougere said after applications are submitted to the student government on campus, they are reviewed by the chancellor and then forwarded to the Missouri governor, who interviews the top three candidates and makes the appointment.

“The Curators rely on the student representative to bring to the table the viewpoint of the students to aid them in understanding recommendations made or issues at hand,” he said.

Editorial: It’s (seriously) time for a student vote on Board of Curators

We deserve for our student representative to have a vote, and a weight on the board commensurate with that vote.

During the Board of Curators’ December meeting, newly-appointed chairman Don Cupps declared 2015 “the year of the student.” But we’re looking for more than just one year dedicated to students.

For years, the Associated Students of the University of Missouri has advocated for the student representative to the board, which governs all four UM campuses, to have a vote on key university issues. The Board has included a non-voting student representative since 1984, and has allowed this student representative into closed door meetings since 1999. The Missouri General Assembly has considered 27 bills giving students a vote since 2002, but each of those bills have failed at various points in the process.

Granting our student representative the ability to vote on decisions made by the Board of Curators is crucial for both the university and for students. As ASUM President Trey Sprick told The Maneater, “those who provide over half of the revenue to this university and university system should have some say in the business decisions made by the system.”

Recently, Missouri Students Association President Payton Head, whose campaign platform included a student vote on the Board of Curators, met with Rep. Kip Kendrick, D-Columbia, to
discuss student-related legislative goals, including a student vote. Kendrick said that he is interested in discussing this idea further with students.

One of the main concerns regarding the Board of Curators is that the current curators have a limited understanding of the modern student’s experience on a college campus. We understand that the role of the student representative is to provide a student’s perspective for the board members. But if students remain unable to vote, it will be harder to resolve the issues students are advocating for. We deserve for our representative to have a vote, and a weight on the board commensurate with that vote.

The main argument against having a student vote in years past was that students are not experienced or qualified enough to help make major policy decisions. However, we believe students are capable of deliberating on complex issues. If the MSA cabinet, composed entirely of students and led by a directly-elected student, can be trusted with handling a $1.6 million budget, then we don’t see how another student can’t be trusted to help make informed, effective decisions alongside the other curators.

ASUM’s tireless effort to lobby for students and inform campus on important legislative issues also highlights the passion students bring to improving their university.

Any board that is appointed by the governor and approved by the Senate is going to be politicized — and it should be noted that the Board of Curators student representative is already chosen by the governor. But some of the tactics used by the Board of Curators in the past to shut down legislation for a voting student representative seem uncalled for.

In 2008 alone, the UM System spent over $20,000 lobbying to have this legislation vetoed. After the legislation made it through the General Assembly that year, the Board of Curators held an emergency meeting where they voted 7-1 to oppose the bill. There were even reports that a former curator’s position as chairman of the Missouri Republican Party influenced then-Republican Gov. Matt Blunt’s decision to veto a student vote legislation.

The quest for student representation on the board has long been pulled into the messy world of state politics, and has even been subject at times — if you believe the accusations — to the unfair rules of cronyism. We can’t say whether or not the current effort will face these same obstacles, but one thing is clear: The UM System, which serves Missouri and its citizens, deserves more than petty politics.

We recognize that adding another representative to the Board may present an issue of voting ties. In order to solve this problem, we propose it be considered that an eleventh voting member be selected from the faculty of the four universities, in the same rotating manner as the student representative is. Faculty are the ones who truly make our universities work. They would be able to provide realistic, insightful views of what the UM System needs and could help make informed decisions in these respects.

We applaud ASUM and MSA’s efforts in lobbying for a voting student representative on the Board of Curators and for raising student awareness about this issue. We were glad to hear that
Head is taking a stance on this issue. We hope to see continued efforts from these groups in rallying students to action.

We encourage students to learn more about the Board of Curators, the ASUM student representative and the potential legislation to allow this representative to vote. The decisions made by the board directly affect student life on campus, literally from the ground up, and students should become an informed, active part in that process. In order for that to happen, we need as many students as possible paying attention to these issues.

As far as the Board of Curators is concerned, every year should be “the year of the student.” Not just 2015.

**COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN**

Student parking now available on University Village site

Tuesday, January 27, 2015 | 6:42 p.m. CST

BY NATALIE HELMS

COLUMBIA — The property on Providence Road where the now-demolished University Village apartment complex once stood has been dedicated to student parking.

Karlan Seville, MU Operations communications manager, said 155 parking spaces in the lot became available at the start of the 2015 spring semester.

"(The parking lot) is considered temporary because it is not paved," Seville said.

Students can apply for parking passes through MU Parking & Transportation Services, which is located at Level 2 of Turner Avenue Garage. Faculty can request a pass to park in the lot, as well.

The University Village apartment complex was demolished in July after a walkway collapse killed Columbia firefighter Lt. Bruce Britt in February. Eleven of 14 buildings on the property were demolished; the three remaining buildings are used for storage.
There are no current plans to repurpose or demolish those structures, according to the associate director of the MU News Bureau, Christian Basi. MU has no plan for further development of the property.

Seville said MU Operations encourages students who park in the University Village lot to use the crosswalks at Rollins Street and Providence Road or Rollins Street and Stewart Road.

A warning sign has been placed under a stop sign to remind students to use those crosswalks because there is no crosswalk at the entrance of the new parking lot, Seville said.

January 28, 2015

Botching Sexual-Assault Complaints Is Costly, Study Finds
By Robin Wilson

NO MU MENTION

A student tells her RA or coach that she was sexually assaulted, but that person doesn’t alert campus authorities. A staff member dissuades a student from officially reporting an assault by warning her how grueling the process will be. A college finds an alleged perpetrator responsible for an assault without considering text messages from his accuser that don’t refer to their encounter as an assault.

All of those are real cases that got colleges into legal trouble in recent years, according to a report released on Tuesday by United Educators, an insurance and risk-management firm. The company and 104 of its member institutions spent more than $17-million from 2011 to 2013 defending against and resolving students’ claims, including lawsuits and federal complaints, in cases of alleged sexual assault.

The new study examines 305 reports of assault at the 104 colleges in that three-year period, which followed the U.S. Department of Education’s sharp admonition to
institutions to comply with the federal gender-equity law known as Title IX. Under that law, institutions must investigate and resolve alleged assaults promptly and fairly, whether or not the police are involved. United Educators requires member institutions—"given the serious nature of student sexual assaults"—to inform the organization of any reports they receive.

Of those tracked in the new study, 28 percent resulted in lawsuits against institutions and another 28 percent led to federal Title IX complaints arguing that the college had mishandled the case. A majority of such claims against colleges—all of the federal complaints and about 40 percent of the lawsuits—came from alleged victims. They commonly argued that colleges had discouraged them from pursuing their complaints, conducted slow or negligent investigations, or imposed inadequate penalties even on students found responsible for sexual assault.

Of the cases tracked in the study, United Educators found that campuses investigated more than three-quarters. Of the 23 percent of cases not investigated, the study found, the primary reason was that the alleged victim was not cooperative. In others, the college was unable to identify the alleged perpetrator, or that student withdrew.

"Campuses have tried to respond appropriately," said Robb Jones, senior vice president and general counsel for claims management at United Educators. "They struggle with confidentiality and finding enough resources. But they are not ignoring the problem."

They are also punishing alleged perpetrators, the study showed. In 45 percent of cases tracked, the college found the accused student responsible. Of those students, the vast majority—about 80 percent—were either suspended or expelled. The alleged perpetrators who sued their institutions, representing about 60 percent of lawsuits in the study, commonly argued that the disciplinary process had discriminated against them and that penalties had been harsh and disproportionate.

**Yearlong Delays**

In addition to describing how cases go wrong, the study offers general insight into reports of campus sexual assault. That’s useful because relatively few sources analyze incidents across campuses.

According to the study, "Confronting Campus Sexual Assault: An Examination of Higher Education Claims," a third of students who reported assaults said that they had been incapacitated: unable to consent because they were drunk, passed out, or asleep. A slightly smaller share of students reported the use of physical force, and 7 percent
said they had unknowingly ingested a date-rape drug.

More than three-quarters of the incidents involved one or both parties’ consuming alcohol. And in all the cases in the study, 90 percent of students knew one another before the alleged assault.

Four in 10 alleged victims, the study found, delayed reporting assaults to their colleges. On average, they waited nearly a year after an incident. Among their reasons for waiting were blaming themselves because they had been drinking and labeling the incident an assault only after talking with friends or attending prevention training.

"Victim delay might be an indictment of a campus culture," said Constance Neary, vice president for risk management at United Educators. "You have students who’ve been assaulted, and they are suffering for months."

Meanwhile, other students are trying to support the victims, she said, and may perceive their institutions as unaware of sexual assault as a campus problem. And perpetrators are not being charged or punished. "This is damaging to the environment," said Ms. Neary. "Institutions have to be extremely clear about encouraging early reporting."

Eight in 10 alleged victims in the 305 cases were freshmen or sophomores, the study found, and about half of the incidents occurred in residence halls. In 40 percent of cases, the two students involved had attended an off-campus party before going back to the campus, where the alleged assault occurred.

Nearly all of the accused students in the study were men (99 percent), and most of those who reported assaults (95 percent) were women. One in five students was accused of sexually assaulting more than one victim, and of those serial perpetrators, 44 percent were either athletes or fraternity members.

One in 10 cases might be considered a gang rape, involving a single victim and two or more perpetrators. Of those perpetrators, the study found, 40 percent were athletes and 13 percent fraternity members. "Our review of these claims suggests a subculture within some fraternities and teams that promotes hypermasculinity, sexual aggression, and excessive alcohol consumption," the report says. "These sociocultural factors may encourage students within these groups to engage in or excuse sexual violence."

Athletes were more likely than other perpetrators to be found responsible for assault. More than 60 percent of cases involving athletes resulted in findings of responsibility, compared with 45 percent of all cases. Athletes found responsible were about as likely
to be expelled, but a smaller share were suspended and a greater share were placed on probation relative to the general population.

The Maneater

Professors Birchler, Katti to be inducted as NAI Fellows

The two professors join Chancellor Loftin and Dr. Hank Foley as NAI Fellows from MU.

After years of research, breakthroughs and developments, two MU researchers, Dr. Kattesh Katti and Dr. James Birchler, were recently announced as part of the 2014 class of fellows for the National Academy of Inventors.

Birchler and Katti have joined the ranks of 170 inductees worldwide for 2014 and have gained “high professional distinction” for their “highly prolific spirit of innovation,” according to the NAI. The researchers are two of four current fellows at MU, along with Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin and Dr. Hank Foley, professor of chemical engineering.

The NAI Fellows Program currently honors a total of 414 men and women from a collection of over 150 academic, governmental and non-profit research institutions around the globe, according to the Academy’s website.

“It’s an honor,” Birchler said.

Katti said the award is so much more than a title.

“You don’t work for awards, titles and recognition,” Katti said. “It is indeed a great feeling that the global community has recognized the top quality of research being done in my laboratories, my department, within our Medical School, College of Arts and Sciences, School of Veterinary Medicine and (University of Missouri Research Reactor Center).”

Candidates for nomination must have a minimum of one U.S. patent and be elected by their peers for “outstanding contributions” in areas including but not limited to “patents and licensing, innovative discovery and technology, significant impact on society and support, and enhancement of innovation,” according to the Academy’s website.

Katti and Birchler began their work more than 10 years ago, and in that time, they have made strides in the efficiency of both cancer treatment and crop growth, respectively.
The two professors were named to the Fellows Program for distinguished contributions in each of their fields, with Katti being honored for work in radiopharmaceutical sciences, green nanotechnology and nanomedicine. Birchler was honored for his work with biological applications of mini chromosomes in agriculture.

Katti’s research involves placing gold nanoparticles into cancerous cells. These nanoparticles then infiltrate the cells and aid in their destruction.

“We can engineer nanoparticles in sizes that are significantly smaller than cancer cells,” Katti said. “This has allowed us to embed nanoparticles of gold within tumor cells. As these nanoparticles have the ability to destroy tumor cells, we are now seeing selective destruction of cancer cells and tumors.”

It was this discovery that led to the establishment of one of 12 Nanotechnology Platforms for Cancer Research in the nation, which Katti himself directs at MU.

Katti credits the aid of his collaborator Carolyn Henry, professor of oncology in the department of veterinary medicine and surgery at MU, who helped discover the presence of these aforementioned gold nanoparticles in sample vials that had been left in a laboratory at MU.

Birchler’s laboratory works primarily with corn genetics and the creation of synthetic, mini chromosomes, which can, through genetic manipulations, be made to grow to set specifications, he said.

“The potential application of this is that it is a technology that will allow new properties to be conferred onto plants,” Birchler said. “These could be new properties for insect or fungal or viral resistance or drought tolerance and, as we go forward, a number of potential properties could be added to this chromosome that would be beneficial for crop agriculture.”

Katti, Birchler and the other Fellows will be inducted on Mar. 20 during the Academy’s conference at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, California, according to the Academy’s website.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

Columbia could tie record-low snowfall for January
Tuesday, January 27, 2015 | 8:42 p.m. CST; updated 11:56 p.m. CST, Tuesday, January 27, 2015
BY ALYSSA SALELA

COLUMBIA — Even as winter storm Juno pummeled parts of the Northeast on Monday and Tuesday, the city of Columbia was about to end January with a near record low amount of snow for the month.
Through Tuesday, only a tenth of an inch of snow had fallen in Columbia this month, according to the National Weather Service. That's 4.3 inches less than the average for January in the past 14 years.

"We have had a fairly dry winter pattern so far this winter," State Climatologist and MU professor Pat Guinan said. "Also, most systems that have come through the Midwest this winter have been moisture-starved."

If Columbia ends the month with no more snow, it would be the eighth January on record since 1890 with only a minimal trace of snow, according to weather service records. Trace amounts of snow fell during the month in 1900, 1913, 1923, 1932, 1933, 1986 and 2006.

Forecasts for the remainder of the month call for high temperatures of about 60 on Wednesday then in the 40s or high 30s through the weekend. The National Weather Service was forecasting a 40 percent chance of rain or snow on Saturday and Saturday night.

"It does not look very likely we will add much more to the snowfall total for this month," Guinan said. "We do need to consider, though, that we have a lot of winter left to go through. History shows February and March have been snowy months in the past."

Average snowfall in Columbia for the past 14 years has been 6.24 inches in February and 2.4 inches in March. In 2011, February brought 19.5 inches of snow and March 9.4 inches. And in 2013, the two months brought a collective 25.4 inches.

The lack of snow has been a boon to the Columbia Public Works Department. Staff members who often spend much of their time clearing roads of ice and snow have instead been able to work on maintenance, department spokesman Steven Sapp said.

"I have lived here all my life, and some years we can have things like this with no snow and use no money, and then last year for example we used $566,000 total," Sapp said.

"Last week we did substantial work on East Walnut Street between Ripley Street and Melbourne Street," Sapp said. "They have been able to get out and do work we normally would not be able to do in the winter."
Columbia is also well below average in snowfall for the climatological winter, which began Dec. 1. Thus far, 1.1 inches have fallen since then, which is 8.6 inches below normal.

Guinan said it remains unclear what the next month has in store.

"We have no idea about February," said Guinan. "From climate predictions, there are equal chances for above, below and near normal temperatures and precipitation."